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**EASTHAMPSTEAD RURAL DISTRICT**

**COUNCIL**

**ANNUAL REPORT**

**of**

**THE MEDICAL**

**OFFICER OF HEALTH**

**for**

**1972**



**MEMBERS OF THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL**  
**(as at 31st December, 1972)**

**Chairman of the Council:** Councillor C.S. Wright

**Vice-Chairman of the Council:** Councillor W.F. Brown

**COUNCILLORS**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| * Mrs. V.R. Ambler  | T.R. Hopgood                           |
| * Mrs. M.D.B. Benwell<br>(Vice-Chairman, Health and Housing<br>Committee) | * Mrs. J.A. Kay                        |
| Mrs. V.J. Brett   | A.G. Mahoney                           |
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| Miss E.G.A. Hide  | E. Thompson                            |
| * P. Hoey   | * D.J. Worrall                         |
|   | A.J. Wort                              |
|   | * C.S. Wright                          |

\* Members of the Health and Housing Committee

## STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

(as at 31st December, 1972)

### MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

David S. Pickup, M.B., B.S., L.M.S.S.A., M.F.C.M., D.P.H., F.R.S.H.

### CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

R.H. Hebborn, Cert. S.I.E.J.B., R.S.H. Cert. Meat and Foods

### DEPUTY CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

D.L. Wilkinson, Cert. S.I.E.J.B., R.S.H. Cert. Meat and Foods, Cert. Building Inspector,  
Dip. Sanitary Engineering

### PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS

E.P. James, Cert. S.I.E.J.B., R.S.H. Cert. Meat and Foods  
M.J. Gaffey, P.H.I. Cert., R.S.H. Dip. Meat and Foods, D.M.A.  
R.E. Jones, P.H.I. Cert., R.S.H. Dip. Meat and Foods (*commenced 1st March, 1972*)  
I. Lloyd, P.H.I. Dip. (*commenced 10th April, 1972*)

### STUDENT PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Miss E. Bowden

### PESTS OFFICERS

W.J. Tagg  
J. Minns (*commenced 24th January, 1972*)

### ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

N.C. Bellamy	Administrative Assistant
Mrs. W.I. Arthur	Secretary to Medical Officer of Health
Miss E.J. Sherman	Clerk
Mrs. S.J. White	Shorthand/Typist ( <i>left 30th March, 1972</i> )
Mrs. M. Jack	Shorthand/Typist ( <i>commenced 8th May, 1972;</i> <i>left 28th July, 1972</i> )
Mrs. M. Littlewood	Clerk/Typist ( <i>commenced 13th November, 1972</i> )

## **EASTHAMPSTEAD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL**

### **REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE EASTHAMPSTEAD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my sixth Annual Report on the State of the Public Health of the Easthampstead Rural District for the year ending 31st December, 1972. This will be my last Annual Report as on 31st March, 1974, the statutory office of Medical Officer of Health ceases to exist.

The health of the area has remained good with a death rate below the national average. No maternal deaths have occurred in the area during the year.

The Vital Statistics are contained in the body of the Report with comments when necessary. From a study of the relevant Vital Statistics it will be seen that the Easthampstead Rural District is a healthy area to live in and all indices compare well with the national average. Having said this, I must repeat my comments of last year, that the picture is not a complete one, as we do not at present know the incidence in the population of the chronic degenerative diseases which, apart from accidents, are the main killer diseases in our society today. We will have to await the onset of the reorganised National Health Service in 1974 before we are in a position to gather information on the epidemiology of these non-infectious diseases.

I would like to thank Mr. Fairman, Hospital Secretary, Heatherwood Hospital, Ascot, for the information on Outpatient Clinics held at Heatherwood Hospital; also Mr. May, Engineer and Surveyor, and Mr. Glendenning, Housing Manager, who have contributed sections to this Report and the County Medical Officer of Health for supplying information relating to County Council services in the District. My thanks are also due to Mr. Hebborn, the Public Health Inspectors and the staff of the Health Department for their efficiency and enthusiasm.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

David S. Pickup,

**Medical Officer of Health.**

## GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE AREA

The Easthampstead Rural District is an area of 27,610 acres in South East Berkshire. The District is irregular in outline with all the boundaries being artificial except the extreme south-west which is marked by the Blackwater River. The general configuration of the ground is undulating, the highest point being Caesars Camp (416 ft.).

Geologically the area can be divided into two very different parts. The northern part of the District is mostly on London Clay while the southern part lies on the Bagshot Sands. This difference in the nature of the soil gives very different characteristics to the two halves of the District; the northern parishes of Binfield, Warfield and part of Winkfield being rich agricultural land while the southern parishes of Sandhurst, Crowthorne and parts of Easthampstead and Winkfield are covered with pine woods and heath.

The New Town of Bracknell is situated roughly in the centre of the District and includes parts of the old parishes of Warfield, Winkfield, Binfield and Easthampstead; the Designated Area is 3,286 acres.

## STATISTICS

Area: 27,610 acres

	1972	1973
No. of habitable houses as at 31st March, 1973	19,788	21,251
Rateable Value as at 1st April, 1973 (new Rateable Value)	£3,598,930	£5,155,397
Product of a New Penny Rate for the year ended 31st March, 1973 (estimated)	£36,132	£97,487
	1971	1972
Population (mid-year estimate)	65,280	67,690

## VITAL STATISTICS

### Deaths

Total No. of Deaths	455	467
Death Rate per 1,000 population	7.0	6.9
Corrected Death Rate per 1,000 population	10.9	11.0
England and Wales Death Rate per 1,000 population	11.6	12.1

### Live Births

No. of legitimate live births	1,147	1,081
No. of illegitimate live births	56	48
	<u>1,203</u>	<u>1,129</u>
Birth Rate per 1,000 population	18.4	16.7
Corrected Birth Rate	15.1	15.0
Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total Live Births	5%	4%
England and Wales Birth Rate per 1,000 population	16.0	14.8

### Stillbirths

No. of Stillbirths	13	6
Rate per 1,000 Live and Stillbirths	11.0	5.0
Total Live and Stillbirths	1,216	1,135
England and Wales Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 Live and Stillbirths	12.0	12.0



	1971	1972
<b>Infant Deaths</b>		
Number of Deaths under 1 year ... ..	14	22
<b>Infant Mortality Rates</b>		
Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 Live Births ... ..	12.0	19.0
Legitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births ... ..	11.0	19.0
Illegitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births ... ..	18.0	42.0
England and Wales Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Total Live Births ... ..	18.0	17.0
<b>Neonatal Mortality Rate</b>		
Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks per 1,000 Live Births ... ..	9.0	12.0
Total Infant Deaths under 4 weeks of age ... ..	11	13
England and Wales Neonatal Mortality Rate ... ..	12.0	12.0
<b>Early Neonatal Mortality Rate</b>		
Deaths of Infants under 1 week per 1,000 Live Births ... ..	9.0	9.0
Total Infant Deaths under 1 week ... ..	11	10
England and Wales Early Neonatal Mortality Rate ... ..	10.0	10.0
<b>Perinatal Mortality Rate</b>		
Stillbirths and Deaths under 1 week per 1,000 Live and Stillbirths	20.0	14.0
England and Wales Perinatal Mortality Rate ... ..	22.0	22.0
<b>Maternal Deaths</b>		
Number of Maternal Deaths ... ..	Nil	Nil

# Causes of Death in the Easthampstead Rural District

	Males 1972	Females 1972	Total	Total 1971
	258	209	467	455
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	-	2	2	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Buccal Cavity, etc.	3	2	5	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus	1	1	2	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	6	4	10	4
Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	4	13	17	13
Malignant Neoplasm, Larynx	-	-	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	20	7	27	25
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	-	12	12	10
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	-	-	-	3
Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate	3	-	3	5
Leukaemia	5	2	7	1
Other Malignant Neoplasms	16	5	21	41
Benign and Unspecified Neoplasms	-	1	1	3
Diabetes Mellitus	4	4	8	3
Other Endocrine etc. Diseases	-	-	-	2
Anaemias	1	3	4	1
Mental Disorders	1	-	1	1
Meningitis	1	-	1	-
Multiple Sclerosis	1	-	1	-
Other Diseases of Nervous System	1	1	2	4
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	-	1	1	6
Hypertensive Disease	3	3	6	3
Ischaemic Heart Disease	60	44	104	104
Other Forms of Heart Disease	4	15	19	25
Cerebrovascular Disease	28	22	50	56
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	8	15	23	15
Pneumonia	23	16	39	44
Bronchitis and Emphysema	22	6	28	19
Asthma	-	-	-	3
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	1	1	2	3
Peptic Ulcer	5	2	7	-
Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	2	-	2	2
Cirrhosis of Liver	-	2	2	1
Other Diseases of Digestive System	2	5	7	5
Nephritis and Nephrosis	-	1	1	-
Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	-	1	-
Other Diseases of Genito-Urinary System	3	2	5	2
Diseases of Skin, Subcutaneous Tissue	1	-	1	-
Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System	-	1	1	6
Congenital Anomalies	6	-	6	5
Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, etc.	6	1	7	8
Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality	-	1	1	-
Symptoms and Ill-Defined Conditions	5	6	11	5
Motor Vehicle Accidents	5	2	7	11
All Other Accidents	3	6	9	7
Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuries	3	-	3	6

## COMMENTS ON STATISTICS

### Population

The natural increase in population, i.e. the excess of births over deaths was 662, the Registrar General's estimated mid-year population is 2,410 greater than the previous year; there was, therefore, an increase due to migration into the Rural District of 1,748 compared with 452 in 1971.

Year	Population		Year	Population	
	Designated Area	E.R.D. including New Town		Designated Area	E.R.D. including New Town
1901	Census	15,757	1961	21,250	45,170
1911	Census	17,530	1962	22,250	47,500
1921	Census	18,751	1963	23,500	49,050
1931	Census	18,010	1964	25,400	51,210
1951	5,250	24,790	1965	26,300	53,750
1952	5,750	25,620	1966	26,584	55,010
1953	6,250	26,710	1967	27,500	56,070
1954	8,000	28,190	1968	31,000	60,180
1955	9,500	30,230	1969	33,600	62,680
1956	11,250	32,390	1970	36,055	64,080
1957	13,250	34,730	1971	33,953	63,926
1958	16,000	37,830	(Census)		
1959	18,000	39,880	1972	37,000	67,690
1960	19,500	41,840			

### Births

There were 1,129 births in the Rural District in 1972. This gives a crude birth rate of 16.7 per 1,000 population and a corrected birth rate of 15.0. The Registrar General's comparability factor being 1.02.

Year	Birth Rate E.R.D.	Birth Rate E. and W.
1956	17.9	15.7
1957	17.7	16.1
1958	20.7	16.4
1959	21.2	16.5
1960	21.2	17.1
1961	19.9	17.4
1962	19.2	18.0
1963	18.8	18.2
1964	18.1	18.4
1965	17.8	18.1
1966	16.4	17.7
1967	15.7	17.2
1968	14.2	16.9
1969	13.9	16.3
1970	14.4	16.0
1971	15.1	16.0
1972	15.0	14.8

There has, as anticipated in the last Annual Report, been a reduction of the percentage of births occurring at home from 5.5% to 4.2% consequent on the opening of the Maternity Unit at Heatherwood Hospital.

## Deaths

The total number of deaths in the Rural District was 467, an increase of 12 on the previous year. The crude death rate is 6.9 per thousand and the corrected death rate of 11.0 per thousand, the area comparability factor being 0.91. These figures as would be expected are below the national average of 12.1 per thousand.

The number of deaths due to Lung Cancer was 27, two more than in 1971. Deaths from Coronary Heart Disease number 104, the same as last year. Coronary Heart Disease still remains the biggest single cause of death.

## MORTUARY

The new Mortuary at Easthampstead Park Cemetery and Crematorium has functioned well and there has been an increase in its use as recorded below.

Post Mortems continue to be undertaken by the Coroner's Pathologist.

	1971	1972
Number of bodies stored:	104	121
Number of Post Mortems:	97	117

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES

### Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis)

Scarlet Fever		70
Whooping Cough		2
Measles		130
Dysentery		3
Acute Meningitis		-
Acute Poliomyelitis	(a) Paralytic	-
	(b) Non-Paralytic	-
Diphtheria		-
Acute Encephalitis	(a) Infective	-
	(b) Post-Infectious	-
Typhoid Fever		-
Paratyphoid Fever		-
Food Poisoning		13
Smallpox		-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum		9
Anthrax		-
Malaria		1
Infective Jaundice		3

## Measles

Year	Notifications Received	No. Vaccinated
1959	1,615	
1960	16	
1961	1,764	
1962	359	
1963	1,034	
1964	304	
1965	881	
1966	789	
1967	985	
1968	57	
1969	86	377
1970	317	1,564
1971	268	1,215
1972	130	1,064

## Tuberculosis

### Notifications of Tuberculosis

Age Groups	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	-	-	-	-
1 Year	-	-	-	-
2-4 years	-	-	-	-
5-9 years	-	-	-	-
10-14 years	-	-	-	-
15-19 years	-	-	-	-
20-24 years	-	1	-	-
25-34 years	-	-	-	-
35-44 years	-	-	-	2
45-54 years	-	-	-	-
55-64 years	1	-	-	-
65-74 years	-	1	-	-
75 and over	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	1	2	-	2

The number on the Register at 31st December, 1972, was as follows:—

	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
Males	87	5
Females	62	14

## IMMUNISATION

Immunisation is performed by General Practitioners in their Surgeries on behalf of the Local Health Authority and also by Medical Staff of the County Council at Child Health Clinics and in the schools. I am indebted to the County Medical Officer of Health for the figures in the Tables.

Now that we have the computer taking records of the date of births of new infants in the County, there has been a change in the method of recording numbers of children immunised during the year as follows:—

	Children Born In		Total
	1971	1972	
Triple (Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus)	585	12	597
Poliomyelitis	587	13	600

### Smallpox

Routine vaccination against Smallpox was discontinued in September 1971 in the County and so no figures are available. This followed the recommendation from the Department of Health which was taken on the advice of their Expert Committee.

### Measles

1,064 children were vaccinated against Measles during 1972.

### Rubella

Due to the increased number receiving B.C.G. vaccinations as recorded below, no girls in the schools were vaccinated against Rubella during the year.

### B.C.G.

B.C.G. Vaccination against Tuberculosis is offered (with parents consent) to all children at ages 12—14 years who, following a skin test, show that they may be susceptible to this infection.

	Skin Test	Vaccinated
Brakenhale Comprehensive School, Bracknell	176	174
Garth Hill School, Bracknell	706	696
Ranelagh School, Bracknell	149	148
Sandhurst Comprehensive School, Sandhurst	201	199
Edgbarrow County Secondary School, Crowthorne	303	300
Wellington College, Crowthorne	119	80

## INTERNATIONAL CERTIFICATES OF VACCINATION

	Certificates Stamped	
	1971	1972
T.A.B.	44	42
Cholera	809	610
T.A.B./Cholera	20	9
Smallpox	944	1,178
Poliomyelitis	-	9
Tetanus	-	10
Medical Certificate	1	-
Non-Vaccination letter	2	6
Gamma Globulin	-	1
Army Medical Certificate	1	-
	<u>1,821</u>	<u>1,864</u>



## MEDICAL SCREENING OF NEW EMPLOYEES

In order to give a more complete picture of the medical work load in the Health Department, I have recorded the numbers of health questionnaires screened for new Council employees for 1971 and 1972. In addition to this, of course, a large number of County Council staff were medically examined, including entrants for Teacher Training Colleges and Firemen.

	1971	1972
Screened	28	45
Interviewed	3	1
Interviewed and Examined	-	1
Extra Years Employment	-	1

## MEDICAL ASPECTS OF HOUSING

The Council operates a points system for housing families. In this system, up to ten points may be awarded on social/medical grounds where housing would, in my opinion, ameliorate the social/medical condition either of the applicant or the family.

Most of these cases require an environmental housing visit by the District Public Health Inspector in addition to a social/medical assessment by myself. I have recorded below the number of cases on the waiting list who have been investigated with a view to awarding medical points.

	1971	1972
Total number of applications for rehousing investigated	28	52
Number awarded medical/social points	16	40

## MEALS ON WHEELS

A total of 10,788 Meals were served in 1971. The number of Meals served in 1972 was 10,674, a decrease of 114. I would like to thank Mrs. Best, B.E.M., Centre Organiser of the Women's Royal Voluntary Service, for this information.

	No. of Meals Served
Bracknell (including Warfield, Winkfield and Binfield)	6,982
Sandhurst	1,860
Crowthorne	1,832

## HEATHERWOOD HOSPITAL

Heatherwood Hospital is a General Hospital and contains Maternity, Gynaecological, Paediatric, Surgical and Orthopaedic beds. The present number of beds is 278.

The weekly programme of Out Patient Clinics at Heatherwood Hospital is as follows:—

MONDAY	A.M.	A.N.C. Physical Medicine E.N.T. Dermatology G.P. Booking Clinic (Maternity)
	P.M.	General Surgery Orthopaedic Dental Psychiatry A.N.C.
TUESDAY	A.M.	Gynaecology Medicine Paediatrics
	P.M.	Gynaecology Chest Psychiatry
WEDNESDAY	A.M.	A.N.C. Orthopaedic Rheumatology
	P.M.	Fractures General Surgery
THURSDAY	A.M.	G.P. Booking Clinic (Maternity) Orthopaedic Orthopaedic
	P.M.	Medicine Paediatrics Psychiatry
FRIDAY	A.M.	A.N.C. Physical Medicine General Surgery Ophthalmology Dental VV and Haemorrhoids
	P.M.	Chest Anti-coagulant Psychiatry Gynaecology
SATURDAY	A.M.	Plastic Surgery General Surgery



# REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT RE-ORGANISATION

Continuing reports made on this subject for 1970 and 1971, the principal Act which will govern re-organisation—Local Government Act 1972—was entered in the Statute Book 26th October, 1972. The two Councils, Windsor R.D.C. and Easthampstead R.D.C., set up a provisional Joint Committee of four members from each Authority—the first meeting being held on 22nd June, 1972. Similarly a Joint Officers Working Party was set up and considerable work together was entered into on resources, procedures and finance. Both the members and officers of the two Authorities found a remarkable sympathy of views and good progress was made in consequence to prepare rational proposals to the new Authority when elected in June 1973.

Circular 116/72 published 21st November, 1972, contained final recommendations of the Local Government Boundaries Commission to Parliament on non-metropolitan County Districts. So far as District No. 6, Berkshire, was concerned, these recommendations came as a shattering shock! Windsor Rural District Council was no longer joined with Easthampstead Rural District Council but transferred to District No. 4—comprising Cookham R.D.C., part of Eton R.D.C., Eton U.D.C., Maidenhead Municipal Borough, Windsor Municipal Borough and Windsor R.D.C. District No. 6 to comprise Easthampstead R.D.C. only with a population of 63,926—the smallest District in the New County of Berkshire! The strongest possible representations were made by both Windsor R.D.C. and Easthampstead R.D.C. against these recommendations, but Parliament accepted the Local Government Boundaries Commission report and made an Order under the Local Government Act, 1972, on 21st December, 1972, which confirmed District No. 6 as comprising Easthampstead R.D.C. only and putting Windsor R.D.C. into District 4 as described above.

September 1972 saw publication of what is commonly known as the “Bains Report” on “The New Local Authorities—Management and Structure”. This publication purports to examine management principles and structures in local government at both elected members and officer levels and report thereon. A copy is to be issued to each new Councillor of the new Local Authorities—so it becomes “the Bible” of the new Local Government!

Electoral Wards and procedures have been determined—the new District No. 6 (former Easthampstead R.D.C.) will have 31 councillors from 16 Wards. Elections for non-county districts will be on 7th June, 1973. Elections for the new Counties will be on 12th April, 1973.

1973 will see great changes forming and developing in Local Government leading to the operative date—1st April, 1974.

## WATER SUPPLY

The water supply of the area has been satisfactory in quality and quantity generally throughout the area. Piped water supply is available in every Parish, and is supplied as follows:—

Parish of Winkfield	The South West Suburban Water Co., The Causeway, Staines.
Parishes of Bracknell, Crowthorne, Sandhurst, Easthampstead, Binfield and Warfield.	The Mid-Southern Water Co., Frimley Green, Camberley.

During the year fifteen samples of drinking water were taken as follows:—

	No. of Samples	
	Bacteriological	Chemical
Mains Water, Bracknell	6	2
Mains Water, Binfield	—	—
Mains Water, Crowthorne	—	1
Mains Water, Sandhurst	2	2
Mains Water, Warfield	—	—
Mains Water, Winkfield	2	—

All of these samples proved to be satisfactory.

A complaint about the taste of water from the South West Suburban Water Company, a river source, was received in April.

The explanation was that in April and July algae is blooming in the river, and this reacts with Chlorine to form Chlorophenols which give a taste to the water something like T.C.P. The Water Company stated that little can be done other than to treat with activated carbon which minimizes the effect.

Similar complaints of unpleasant taste were received in November in respect of the water supply in the Bracknell area supplied by the Mid-Southern Water Company. This also was of the Chlorophenol type. Samples taken from the properties of the complainants were bacteriologically satisfactory.

Another complaint of unusual taste was received about the water supply at an office in Bracknell—the water was also said to produce green staining when used in an electric kettle. A sample for bacteriological examination was satisfactory. A chemical sample showed that the green staining was due to the presence of copper, probably due to mixed copper/galvanized plumbing. The plumbing in question was replaced.

## FLUORINE CONTENT OF WATER

The parish of Winkfield derives its supply from the South West Suburban Water Company whose water has a fluorine content of an insignificant quantity, as would be anticipated from a river source. The average fluorine content of water in supply during 1972 was 0.24 parts per million, a little less than the previous year—the maximum recorded was 0.67 ppm and the minimum 0.14.

The remainder of the Rural District derives its supply from the Mid-Southern Water Company. The fluoride content of the normal supply to the Rural District from this Company is low, in the range of 0.1–0.2 mg/l, and this is naturally occurring. When necessary, a supplementary source is brought into use, and this has a natural fluoride content of 1.6 mg/l. On these occasions, the fluoride content of the supply is in the range of 0.4–0.8 mg/l.

I would express my thanks to the two Water Companies concerned who have supplied this information.

## PLUMBO-SOLVENT ACTION

The water supplied in the District is not liable to have plumbo-solvent action.

## STAND-PIPES

There are no houses in the Rural District supplied by means of stand-pipes.

## SWIMMING POOLS

Bacteriological sampling of swimming pool water continued in 1972, and one hundred and three samples were taken from the following:—

Braybrooke ... ..	6
St. Mary's School ... ..	5
Harmanswater ... ..	31
Bracknell Pool—large ... ..	6
Bracknell Pool—small ... ..	3
Branksome Hill School ... ..	5
Scotland Hill School ... ..	5
Wellington College ... ..	3
St. Michael's School ... ..	3
College Town Junior School ... ..	4
Wick Hill School ... ..	2
Uplands School ... ..	3
Bullbrook C.E. School ... ..	1
Ascot Heath School ... ..	5
Lambrook School ... ..	4
Heathfield School ... ..	2
Ranelagh School ... ..	2
Sandy Lane ... ..	3
Cranbourne School ... ..	7
Winkfield Place Pool ... ..	3

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Few problems were experienced with the bacteriological quality of the water in swimming pools during the year, although occasionally some unsatisfactory samples were received. The pool managers carried out the Department's recommendations to rectify these faults.

Frequent sampling was continued at Harmanswater School Pool because of the intensive use made of the pool.

A complaint was received in July of a stinging effect on the eyes of persons using this Pool, and sampling revealed that this was due to low pH (acidity)—the dosage rate of the chlorine being normal. This was rectified.

## MAIN DRAINAGE

The arrangements for sewerage and sewage disposal in the District are good, and reference should be made to the Report of the Engineer and Surveyor on this subject.

## POLLUTION OF WATER COURSES AND STREAMS

The Thames Conservancy Board is the authority primarily concerned with pollution of main water courses, rivers and streams in the District. They take frequent samples from water-courses, and set the standards that they require of sewage works effluents. These standards vary for different works.

The Council through its Public Health Department administer the Public Health Acts in respect of pollution of ponds, ditches and water-courses in the area, and during the year eleven bacteriological and sixteen chemical samples were taken of various effluents, and where there was evidence of pollution, the attention of the persons concerned was drawn to it. This necessitated many visits by the Public Health Inspectors concerned.

The Thames Conservancy Board must also now be notified, as well as the Rural District Council, under the Deposit of Poisonous Wastes Act, 1972, of all classified poisonous waste disposed of within its area.

## SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS BY DISTRICT INSPECTORS

### PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS

Complaints	232
Visits and Revisits	1,127
Work in progress	36
Moveable dwellings	217
Water Supplies	69
Infectious Diseases	422
Land Charges (Searches)	667
Markets	62
Interviews, Builders, etc.	71
Noise	172
Miscellaneous	335

### HOUSING ACTS

Housing Inspections	257
Improvements Grants and Loans	47
Rent Act	10

### FOOD AND DRUGS ACT

Food Complaints	116
Food Shops	420
Ice Cream Premises	43
Dairies	16
Butchers' Premises	151
Cafes, Restaurants, etc.	128
Food Hygiene (General) Regulations	262
Food Hygiene (Markets, Stalls and Delivery Vehicles) Regulations	54
Licensed Premises	51

### FACTORY ACTS

Inspections (including Bakehouses)	119
------------------------------------	-----

### MISCELLANEOUS

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act	276
Petroleum Acts	128
Clean Air Act	361
Swimming Pools	79
Plans checked	80
Animal Boarding Establishments	11
Pet Animals Act	8
Waste Foods Order	9
Civic Amenities Act	80
Visits to Public Health Laboratory and Public Analyst	63
Letters and Memorandums sent out	1,625

## NOTICES SERVED

Statute	Preliminary Notices	Statutory Notices	Court Proceedings
Public Health Acts	139	7	—
Food and Drugs Act	67	—	5
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act	53	—	—
Clean Air Act	3	—	—
Factories Act	7	—	—
Other Acts	17	—	—
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>286</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>5</b>

## HOUSING ACT, 1957

During the year, fourteen houses were represented by the Medical Officer of Health as being unfit for human habitation. A Demolition Order was made in eleven cases, a Closing Order in two, and one undertaking was accepted. Four families from unfit houses were rehoused by the Council during 1972. In addition, three Demolition Orders were revoked, and three undertakings were determined, the properties concerned having been made fit for human habitation to the satisfaction of the Council during the year.

## CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT, 1960

217 visits were made to caravans and caravan sites during the year. The number of site licences are as follows:—

### Sites operating as at 31st December, 1972

		Privately Owned Sites	
		Residential	Holiday
(a)	Individual ... ..	8	—
(b)	Multiple (more than three vans) ... ..	9	1
Total number of caravans ... ..		581	120

## GYPSIES AND CARAVAN DWELLERS OF NO FIXED ABODE

### EASTHAMPSTEAD CARAVAN SITE

This site was completed during the year and occupied by 12 families on 31st October, 1972.

## CAMPING SITES (PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936, SECTION 269)

In December 1969, a Working Party was set up by the then Minister of Housing and Local Government “to consider the controls over, and the minimum standards for tent camping sites, and sites for touring caravans and to make recommendations”.

Some new Model Standards were drawn up, and the Council adopted these, slightly amended, in advance of them being given statutory authority. These will be incorporated in conditions of Licence.



## FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS, 1960

Type of Premises	Number in District
Bakehouses ... ..	6
Cafes and Restaurants ... ..	20
Food Shops ... ..	144
Licensed Premises ... ..	62
Butchers' Shops ... ..	29
Fried Fish Shops ... ..	8
	<hr/>
	269
	<hr/>

## FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

Five cases under Section 2 were taken during the year.

- |   |                            |
|---|----------------------------|
| 1. Sale of a scone containing a sticking plaster. | Fined £15 with £10 costs.  |
| 2. Sale of a decomposed chicken.                  | Fined £100 with £10 costs. |
| 3. Dirty milk bottle 8th November, 1971.          | Fined £25 with £10 costs.  |
| 4. Dirty milk bottle 9th November, 1971.          | Fined £25 with £10 costs.  |
| 5. Sale of an uncut loaf containing a matchstick. | Fined £20 with £10 costs.  |

Seventy-seven cases of complaints about food were dealt with during the year—the main cause of complaint being:—

Foreign bodies ... ..	28
Tainted or contaminated ... ..	19
Mouldy ... ..	16
Dirty milk bottles ... ..	5
Milk bottles containing glass and foreign bodies ...	3
Possible cause of food poisoning ... ..	2
Stale food ... ..	4

Most of these were taken up with the vendors or manufacturers and appropriate warning letters sent.

The Consumer Protection Department of the Berkshire County Council (Weights and Measures Inspectors) also had 10 prosecutions under Section 2 in the County during the year 1st April, 1971, to 31st March, 1972, as follows:—

- |  |                              |
|--|------------------------------|
| 1. Selling confectionery containing a nail.          | Fined £10 with £5 costs.     |
| 2. Whisky and gin adulterated with water.            | Fined £50 with £10 costs.    |
| 3. Selling chocolate containing a piece of metal.    | Fined £25 with £10 costs.    |
| 4. Piece of glass in bottle of school milk.          | Fined £25 with £10 costs.    |
| 5. Foreign matter in sugar.                          | Fined £20 with £13.65 costs. |
| 6. Piece of glass in bottle of school milk.          | Fined £40 with £11.15 costs. |
| 7. Steak and kidney pie containing a piece of wood.  | Fined £20 with £20.65 costs. |
| 8. Piece of glass in bottle of milk.                 | Fined £50 with £13.15 costs. |
| 9. Selling an iced bun containing an insect.         | Fined £10 with £14 costs.    |
| 10. Supplying frozen peas containing part of a slug. | Fined £40.                   |

It will be noted that there could be a considerable area of overlapping in this work, but no doubt this will be rationalised in the Local Government reorganisation due to take effect in 1974.

## **MILK AND DAIRIES**

The Berkshire County Council take samples at monthly intervals from plant licensed by them of the various grades of milk. In the past we have received details of samples taken, but as the great majority of these are satisfactory, the County Council have now discontinued this practice. They will notify us of any unsatisfactory samples taken in this District—none was so notified during 1972.

## **GAME LICENCES**

Six shopkeepers were registered during 1972 to deal in game under the Game Act, 1831.

## **SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1958**

Two slaughtermen resident in this District were licensed to operate by renewal of their licences.

## **DISEASES OF ANIMALS (WASTE FOODS) ORDER, 1957**

The number of persons holding licences in this District is as follows:—

(a)	The Diseases of Animals (Waste Foods) Order, 1957	1
(b)	The Diseases of Animals (Licensing of Waste Food Sterilisation Plant) Order, 1954	3

Nine inspections were carried out during the year.

The County Council's powers and duties under this Order were delegated to the County District Councils under a scheme of delegation made by the County Council on 24th February, 1958.

As the County Council now have staff able to carry out this work, the Delegation Scheme will be revoked on 1st April, 1973.

## **LIQUID EGG (PASTEURISATION) REGULATIONS, 1960**

There are no egg pasteurisation premises in this District.

## **POULTRY INSPECTION**

There are no poultry processing premises within the District.

## **MEAT INSPECTION**

There is no slaughterhouse in the District.

## UN SOUND FOOD SURRENDERED

The following, after being examined and found unfit for human consumption, were voluntarily surrendered to the Department for disposal and destroyed.

	Tons	Cwts.	lbs.
Meat in retail shops	—	9	77
Cooked meat and meat products	—	—	8
Canned meats	—	3	—
Other canned foods	—	3	14
Fish (fresh)	—	—	76
Other foods	—	1	4
Other foods (Frozen—due to cabinet breakdown)	—	4	95
	1	2	50

## IMPORTED FOOD REGULATIONS, 1968

With the coming into operation of an automated food warehouse on the Southern Industrial Area of Bracknell, it has been necessary to inspect imported goods in containers not cleared by Port Health Authorities at port of entry to this country in accordance with the above named Regulations.

Samples are also taken to check the quality of the product and efficient canning of the goods which consist mainly of tinned tomatoes, orange juice, lemon juice and fruit salad.

## PETROLEUM ACTS, 1928 AND 1936

There are sixty seven premises licensed for the storage of petroleum spirit in the area, the total amount licensed being 299,740 gallons. It is anticipated that the Berkshire County Council will take over the licensing of petroleum installations on 1st April, 1974, through the Fire Authority.

## COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are no registered Common Lodging Houses within the area of the Council.

## BERKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL ACT, 1953

### Section 74/75

Licensing under these Sections relates to all Public Halls and other Halls and premises used for Public Performances of Music, Singing or Dances. The premises are inspected for safety precautions, and, as a result of these inspections, licences are issued subject to conditions of safety. The following premises were licensed in 1972:—

The Jolly Gardener, Winkfield  
Parish Hall, Crowthorne  
Sports Centre, Bagshot Road, Bracknell  
Binfield Memorial Hall, Binfield  
Harmanswater Community Centre, Bracknell  
Easthampstead Community Centre, Bracknell  
Easthampstead Parish Centre, Bracknell  
St. Mary's Parish Centre, Wellington Road, Sandhurst  
Rose and Crown, High Street, Sandhurst  
Newtown Pippin, Ralph's Ride, Bracknell  
Admiral Cunningham, Priestwood Square, Bracknell  
Sandhurst Social Club, Wellington Road, Sandhurst  
Bullbrook Community Centre, Bracknell  
Brakenhale School, Bracknell  
Priestwood Community Centre, Bracknell



Pratt Memorial Hall, Winkfield Row  
Bracknell and District British Legion Club  
Jasmine Chinese Restaurant, 3 Market Place, Bracknell  
Bridge House, Wokingham Road, Bracknell  
Red Lion, High Street, Bracknell  
Green Man, Crowthorne Road, Bracknell  
St. Josephs Church Centre, Bracknell

## **Section 122**

One person trading as Hawker of Food was registered in 1972. Thirteen inspections were made during the year.

## **Section 129**

The Council has adopted Byelaws regulating the hygienic conditions of premises and persons carrying on the trade of Hairdresser and Barber. One person was newly registered by the Council under this Section during the year. Nineteen visits were made to all premises during the year.

## **THEATRES ACT, 1968, AND CINEMATOGRAPH ACTS, 1909 AND 1952**

The system of licensing is to control safety requirements relative to seating, fire precautions, exits, stage equipment and the like. Licences for the performance of stage plays are issued, subject to safety conditions, on an occasional basis, valid for one month. The one Cinema in Bracknell is licensed under the Cinematograph Acts.

### **Theatres Act**

Seventeen occasional licences were issued during 1972 in respect of the following premises:—

School Hall, Brakenhale School, Rectory Lane, Bracknell  
School Hall, Garth Hill Lower School, Sandy Lane, Bracknell  
School Hall, Ranelagh School, Bracknell  
School Hall, Edgbarrow School, Crowthorne  
Parish Hall, Heath Hill Road, Crowthorne  
Assembly Hall, South East Berks. College of Further Education, Bracknell  
Little Theatre, South East Berks. College of Further Education, Bracknell

## **SAFETY IN FAIRGROUNDS**

Concern has been expressed from time to time about the adequacy of existing arrangements for ensuring that amusement devices at fairgrounds are maintained in a safe condition. The Home Office, the local authority associations, and the Greater London Council have had consultations on this problem, and the associations representing the proprietors of travelling fairs and permanent amusement parks have also been approached. As a result of this, a memorandum setting out the results of the discussions has now been circulated.

It is stated that even though the number of fairground accidents attributable to defective apparatus may be very low, any action which can be taken to reduce the incidence of such accidents still further is naturally to be welcomed.

Local authorities have power under section 75 of the Public Health Act, 1961, to make byelaws for the purpose of securing safe and adequate means of ingress to and egress from pleasure fairs; for the prevention and suppression of nuisances, and for the preservation of sanitary conditions, order and public safety. In particular, these powers enable local authorities to make byelaws relating to the safe construction and maintenance of amusements such as roundabouts, switchback railways, dodgems and similar devices. Model byelaws have been prepared by the Home Office—these make express provision for the safe construction and design of all amusement devices and require them to be maintained in this condition.

The Showmen's Guild of Great Britain to which the great majority of operators of fairground machines in travelling fairs belong, operates a voluntary scheme, first introduced in 1966, under which every machine operated by a Guild member is registered and subject to regular inspection by a qualified engineer approved by the Board.

The Council made byelaws as described on 7th July, 1972, and these were confirmed by the Secretary of State of the Home Office on 18th September, 1972.

## **PET ANIMALS**

Five licences to keep Pet Shops were renewed during the year, these are periodically inspected.

## **ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1963**

This Act provides for the licensing and inspection of Boarding Establishments for animals (cats and dogs). Eight establishments were licensed during the year and are periodically inspected.

## **AIR POLLUTION**

There is one confirmed Smoke Control Area in this district—this covers 180 acres in the Priestwood area of Bracknell and came into force on 1st September, 1969.

Area No. 2 comprising 1,680 acres in the areas known as Great Hollands, Wildridings, Hanworth, Birch Hill, Crown Wood and the Southern Industrial Area, and Area No. 3 covering 605 acres in the Easthampstead and Harmanwater areas were confirmed by the Department of the Environment, to come into operation on 1st July, 1973.

Preliminary work has commenced on Priestwood II Smoke Control Area No. 4 comprising the area of Bracknell extending to Warfield Road, and Smoke Control Area No. 5—comprising the Bullbrook area of Bracknell.

## **DEPOSIT OF POISONOUS WASTE ACT, 1972**

This Act which came into force on 3rd August, 1972, penalises the depositing on land of poisonous, noxious or polluting waste so as to give rise to an environmental hazard and requires the giving of notices in connection with the removal and deposit of waste.

Notifications are received from time to time from sixteen firms in the Rural District who make arrangements for waste to be deposited at various places outside the area.

During the year, the Chief Public Health Inspector attended a Seminar on the Treatment and Disposal of Toxic Wastes at Harwell. It is clear that this aspect of Environmental Health Services will be increasingly important and require a high level of expertise.

## **NOISE CONTROL**

### **a) "Neighbourhood Noise"**

This report, which was issued in 1972, is important in recommending amendments and strengthening of noise control by a new Noise Abatement Act.

Excluding industrial noise affecting workers, aircraft noise and traffic noise, a great variety of sources of noise can cause disturbance and annoyance to the general public and are collectively referred to as "Neighbourhood Noise".

The report refers to

- (i) **Prevention**—at the planning stages and installation stage;
- (ii) **Nuisance**—procedure should be reviewed, extended and made more quickly effective;
- (iii) **Concept of General Duty**—by all citizens not to impose unnecessary noise on his neighbours;
- (iv) **Areas of Special Control**—to be known as Noise Abatement Zones—somewhat like Clean Air Zones and involving survey and establishment of noise level contours in areas selected with a view to bringing peak levels down to the general level and gradually lowering the latter;
- (v) **Demolition and Construction Works**—special powers to control noise levels at such sites by statutory notice;
- (vi) **Statutory Undertakers**—e.g. gas, water, electricity, telephones—to be made liable to proceedings under the new Act;
- (vii) **Noise in Public Places**—a comprehensive review of model byelaws is recommended to make them adequate in scope and form to meet contemporary needs;
- (viii) **Machines—Limitation and Rating of Noise Output**—by regulation under the new Act and also by British Standards.

b) **“Planning and Noise”**

Arising from a) above, a draft circular on Planning and Noise was available for comment by some authorities in October 1972 and the final circular—10/73—was issued on 19th January, 1973. This introduces a new concept in noise control, and it will be interesting to report on its use and effects in the next Annual Report.

c) **Aircraft Noise**

As in previous years, a programme of aircraft noise recordings was made in the District during July and August 1972 by Dr. Pretlove of Reading University. He also carried out similar recordings in Reading, Wokingham, Bagshot and Hambledon.

Dr. Pretlove supplied tables showing comparable and other readings—dates, times of day and dbA readings for peaks of 87 dbA and over (approximate equivalent of 100 PNdb and over) together with total peaks recorded each day of 60 dbA and over. These recordings were taken once more at Winkfield Radio and Space Research Field Station.

It was clear from the foregoing information that aircraft noise in this district continues to be “very annoying”. Particularly annoying are aircraft passing over Sandhurst, Crowthorne, Bracknell and Binfield (in this parish, both from general directions south and north), on approach to the glide path on descents. It is quite noticeable that many such aircraft appear to be very low and, according to type and state of trim, can be very noisy and disturbing.

The Chief Public Health Inspector attended a Quiet Aircraft Symposium at Caxton Hall, Westminster, on 28th June, 1972. This was an excellent symposium of speakers from the very fore-front of technology of our aircraft industry. A very clear exposition was given of the design and development of aircraft engines and airframes to secure very considerable improvements in noise emissions. The practicability of limiting the annoyance factor, expressed as N.N.I., to a 35 N.N.I. contour reduced in area from the present approximately 230 square miles to that of the perimeter of Heathrow Airport, approximately 7 square miles, is a technical reality. The projected time scale to achieve this—by 1990—is not acceptable. To bring about a more rapid improvement—say by 1978—requires a policy decision by Government and resources, such as finance, to be

made immediately available. If our Government do not set the pace in this field—or at the very least keep up with other leading countries, such as the U.S.A.—there could be disastrous consequences for our own industry which could find its products and services not acceptable to or even barred from international service.

## PEST CONTROL

This service is undertaken by two whole time Pests Officers, Mr. W. Tagg and Mr. J. Minns. During the twelve months ended 31st December, 1972, the following work was carried out under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949:—

	Premises Including Business Premises	Agricultural Premises
Number of Properties in the District	20,735	213
Number of premises inspected as a result of notification	835	21
Number of properties inspected which were found to be infested by		
(a) Rats	676	21
(b) Mice	159	15
No sewers were infested by rats during the year.	Sewer testing was carried out in 35 manholes (10%) in Harmanswater, Bracknell.	

In addition, the Pests Officers dealt with the following:—

Wasps Nests	... ..	729 (destroyed)
Swarms of Bees	... ..	29 (not destroyed)
Cockroaches	... ..	43 premises
Silverfish	... ..	20 premises
Ants	... ..	337 premises
Cat and Dog Fleas	... ..	59 treatments
Squirrels in roofs	... ..	37 premises
Mosquitoes	... ..	27 treatments
Rabbits and Foxes	... ..	67 earths or burrows
Cluster Fly and Blow Fly	... ..	43 premises
Carpet Beetle	... ..	21 premises
Red Mite	... ..	36 premises



**OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963**

**(a) REGISTRATIONS AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS**

	No. of Premises Registered during the year	Total Number of Registered Premises at end of year	Registered Premises requiring a general inspection during the year
Offices	15	170	20
Retail Shops	25	260	99
Wholesale Shops	1	15	1
Catering Establishments	6	60	12
Fuel Storage Depots	—	3	—
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>508</b>	<b>132</b>
<b>TOTAL NUMBER OF VISITS OF ALL KINDS BY INSPECTORS TO REGISTERED PREMISES UNDER THE ACT</b>			<b>276</b>

**(b) ANALYSIS OF CONTRAVENTIONS**

Section	Number of Contraventions found	
4	Cleanliness	5
6	Temperature	3
7	Ventilation	11
8	Lighting	1
9	Sanitary conveniences	—
10	Washing facilities	14
12	Clothing accommodation	9
13	Sitting facilities	8
14	Seats (Sedentary Workers)	1
15	Eating facilities	2
16	Floors, passages and stairs	2
24	First Aid	17
—	Hoists and Lifts	2
	Other Matters	69
		<u>144</u>

**(c) REPORTED ACCIDENTS**

	Number Reported Non-fatal	Inves- tigated	Action Recommended		No Action
			Formal Warning	Informal Advice	
Offices	7	6	—	3	3
Retail Shops	11	3	—	3	—
Wholesale Shops Warehouses	11	5	1	1	3
Catering Establishments open to public and canteens	5	2	—	1	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>7</b>

#### (d) ANALYSIS OF REPORTED ACCIDENTS

	Offices	Retail Shops	Wholesale Warehouses	Catering Establish- ments open to public and canteens
Machinery	—	—	2	—
Transport	2	—	4	—
Falls of persons	3	3	1	2
Stepping on or striking against object or person	—	—	—	—
Handling goods	—	6	2	—
Use of hand tools	2	—	1	1
Not otherwise specified	2	—	1	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>5</b>

#### REGISTRATION AND INSPECTIONS

Progress has been made with this during the year. For the first three months, difficulties were experienced as the department still were two Inspectors short of establishment. However, the department has been at full strength since 10th April, 1972.

This work has been different from a normal district in that the New Town Centre of Bracknell is still not completed. There has been little point in inspecting old premises due soon to be demolished.

During the last four years, 496 general inspections have been carried out which is just short of the total number of premises on the register at present. It has been laid down that a general inspection should take place at three year intervals, and it is hoped that it will be possible to maintain this in future. Some difficulty has been experienced with obtaining information about the occupancy of new offices in the town, and the co-operation of the Bracknell Development Corporation has been sought on this.

As a contrast, in other parts of the District outside Bracknell, there are small village shops, many of which are exempt from the provisions of the Act.

#### OPERATION AND GENERAL PROVISIONS OF THE ACT

Many of the new premises in the New Town have been inspected but even in new premises it is quite usual to find that no abstract is displayed, and no first aid box or thermometers are provided. Sometimes it is found that the ventilation or lighting has not been adequate, but remedial measures taken have usually resulted in better provision being made.

#### ACCIDENTS

The number of accidents notified during the year was 34 which was the highest total yet. Nine of these took place at a large computerised warehouse on the Southern Industrial Estate, some of them in connection with machines such as fork lift trucks.

The general practice at this particular warehouse is that training is given both for the handling of goods and for the handling of machines by the Company concerned to their employees but, with the majority of cases investigated, it has been found that the accident has been caused by carelessness by the particular individual concerned, and no fault can be laid at the door of the employer.

One accident was to a butcher boning out a piece of meat, when the knife slid along the curve of the bone and stabbed his right leg. In view of the danger of this practice, a letter was sent to all butchers in the district suggesting that they should wear some extra form of protection, such as a leather apron, and this had a favourable reception.

Another case brought to our notice was that window cleaners in a tall office block were precariously standing on the window ledge without any visible signs of safety equipment in case of falls. The attention of the firm concerned was drawn to this and they were asked to provide safety harnesses and the correct hoists.

## PROSECUTIONS

No prosecutions were taken during the year and there were no instances where Section 22 was invoked.

## ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1961

### PART 1 OF THE ACT

#### 1. INSPECTIONS FOR PURPOSES OF PROVISIONS AS TO HEALTH

	Number on Register	Inspections	Number of Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	7	2	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	135	112	7	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises)	10	5	—	—
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>—</b>

## 2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of Cases in which Pro-secutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness (Section 1)	1	1	—	1	—
Overcrowding (Section 2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable Temperature (Section 3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate Ventiliation (Section 4)	1	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (Section 7)					
(a) Insufficient	1	1	—	1	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-workers)	1	1	—	1	—
TOTAL	4	3	—	3	—

## PART VIII OF THE ACT

### 3. OUTWORK (Sections 133 and 134)

Nature of Work	No. of Outworkers in August List Required by Section 133 (1) (c)	No. of Cases of default in sending Lists to the Council	No. of Prosecutions for failure to supply Lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Section 134	
					Notices served	Prosecutions
Wearing apparel making, etc.	22	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>Nil</b>	<b>Nil</b>	<b>Nil</b>	<b>Nil</b>	<b>Nil</b>



**STUDENT**

I am pleased to report that Miss Elizabeth Bowden has continued her B.Sc. Course in Environmental Health at the University of Aston in Birmingham, and completes the Course in the summer of 1973.

**R.H. HEBBRON**  
Chief Public Health Inspector

# REPORT OF THE ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR

## INTRODUCTION

As a direct contribution to public health considerations in the District, 1972 was notable because the section of the Blackmoor Valley Surface Water Sewer in New Road came into use, thus preventing any recurrence of the flooding of properties, which has been an undeniable feature of that area for so many years, and the Phase 2 Extensions at Sandhurst Water Pollution Control Works was largely completed, thus providing sewage treatment units with sufficient capacity to match the flow, again for the first time for many years.

1972, from my own point of view, was notable because the first stirrings of impending change in 1974 began to manifest themselves, not the least of which was the retirement of Mr. Harry Charlesworth after 38 years service to the Council and my appointment to the post of Engineer and Surveyor.

## WATER POLLUTION CONTROL

### Sandhurst Water Pollution Control Works

The prediction made in my 1971 Report that the Stage 2 Extensions at Sandhurst Works would be completed by late Summer 1972 proved, once again, to be over optimistic. In point of fact, the main Contractors did not leave the site until the end of the year and the two upward flow sand filtration units were not commissioned until the end of January, 1973, at which time the Works' effluent finally came within the Thames Conservancy special standard. During the year, the Council's Consultants, Howard Humphreys and Sons, prepared the design and contract documents for Stage 3/4 Extensions to bring the Works' capacity from 1.6 million gallons per day to 2.5 million gallons per day, on which the Thames Conservancy have placed an even higher special standard to come into operation with effect from 1st January, 1975, by which time the Stage 3/4 Extensions should be complete. In approving these further extensions at Sandhurst Works the Council has instructed that no further extensions will be considered on the present Works site, and I am under instruction to investigate alternative sites or means of dealing with future flows in excess of 2.5 million gallons per day.

The sludge presses settled down to steady day to day operation with only minor mechanical malfunctions and during the year it was possible to eliminate all sludge drying on the site which, combined with the installation of odour control sprays, resulted in a great reduction in the "Sandhurst smell" with which local residents have had to live for many years. Continued sampling of the additive succeeded in eliminating earlier difficulties which arose from the presence of an excess of heavy metals in the pressed sludge cake which is now being stockpiled at Longshot Lane Refuse Disposal Centre as low grade final covering material for the pulverised refuse. A long term investigation was started towards the end of the year into the amount of sludge arising at the Works in the domestic sewage, as the production of dried sludge cake, when the accumulated backlog of sludge had been dealt with, was greatly in excess of the Consultants' theoretical figure and was beginning to cause concern that the presses would not be able to deal with more than the Stage 2 flow. The first indications from this investigation are that an additional sludge press will be required as part of the Stage 3/4 Extensions.

### Easthamstead Park Water Pollution Control Works

Minor mechanical breakdowns during the year resulted in non-compliance with the Thames Conservancy's special standard for the effluent on one or two occasions but this was quickly corrected. When working to the special standards there is an exceedingly small tolerance between the normal effluent quality and the limit set by these standards, and the most minor upset will result in the effluent failing to "make the grade". This is not to say that any public health risk arises as the special standard allows only half the impurities included in the normally accepted Royal Commission standard. The Conservancy now uses special standards for all Works discharging to the River Blackwater.

### **Winkfield Water Pollution Control Works**

The negotiations with the Development Corporation referred to in last year's report concerning the proportion of Winkfield flow which can be dealt with by the Development Corporation are no nearer fruition. Clearly, there are numerous pressures upon the Development Corporation which prevents a long term commitment of sewer and Works' capacities in the northern area of the District, but I am now working towards the possibility of using Winkfield Works to deal with flows in excess of the Development Corporation limit, and a scheme for the extension of the Winkfield Relief Foul Sewer from the Works to Brockhill Pumping Station, with attendant alterations at the Works, is included in the 1973 Capital Estimates.

### **Billingbear Water Pollution Control Works**

This small plant continues to give satisfactory service.

### **Binfield Water Pollution Control Works**

The land which contains the old Binfield Works has now been transferred away from its sewage treatment use and is let for grazing.

## **FOUL AND SURFACE WATER SEWERAGE SCHEMES**

### **Blackmoor Valley Drainage Scheme**

The first phase of the Blackmoor Valley Drainage Scheme carried out by Messrs. A. Streeter and Sons of Godalming, under which foul and surface water sewers were provided, was completed by the end of 1972. As I stated in my opening remarks, the extensive flooding of domestic property in the New Road area with surface water contaminated with sewage during wet weather is now a thing of the past and sufficient capacity is available for all foreseeable development in the valley. The next phase from the southern end of New Road through to Blythewood was let in the latter part of the year and it is anticipated that this contract will be completed by the end of 1973. The Contractor appointed for this work is Messrs. Holdyne Limited.

### **Sandhurst Surface Water Drainage Scheme**

Progress was made throughout the year on the design and preparation of initial contracts for various outfalls from College Town and the Snaprills area of Sandhurst to the River Blackwater. The first contract to be undertaken under this scheme was for the construction of an outfall from the culvert laid under Yorktown Road by the County Council several years ago adjacent to No. 4 Pumping Station. This was completed at the end of the year. The major design project undertaken was for the construction of a major outfall and storage pond to serve the Owlsmoor development area. It is anticipated that this scheme will cost in the region of a quarter of a million pounds and negotiations are proceeding with the consortium of developers for a considerable financial contribution. Orders for the manufacture of the main culvert units were placed but unfortunately suffered a considerable delay as the Company involved was part of the failed Mitchell Group. However, negotiations are proceeding with the successor Company and no delay to the main contract is anticipated.

### **Crowthorne and Sandhurst Main Drainage—Stage 2**

Towards the end of the year, tenders were invited for the construction of an additional foul sewer in Yorktown Road where the existing sewer has insufficient capacity for the Owlsmoor development, and also an extension of the foul sewer from Thibet Road to Crowthorne to serve a number of properties as yet not on main drainage and also to accept flow from the south-east corner of Crowthorne which, at present, gravitates to No. 6 Pumping Station on Dukes Ride where it is pumped to Sandhurst Works.

## **Sewer Adoptions**

Foul and surface water sewers constructed by developers throughout the District were the subject of formal agreements under Section 18 of the Public Health Act 1936, under which the sewers are constructed to a sufficient standard to be accepted as public sewers on completion and, in addition, consideration has been given to the possibility of utilising Section 16 of the Berkshire County Council Act under which landowners can be made responsible for certain offsite sewerage works required as a result of development of their land.

## **REGIONAL WATER AUTHORITY**

Much information was received from the Department of the Environment on the reorganisation of water and sewerage services to be managed in future by the new Regional Water Authorities. Action by the Local Authority Associations early in the year resulted in a policy of non-co-operation in the setting up of provisional management units whose job it would be to ensure the smooth handover of water, sewage disposal and sewerage services on 1st April, 1974. This action was intended to prevent the wholesale takeover of, particularly, sewage disposal and sewerage services from the new District Councils and has been partially successful in that it is now intended that the RWA's will be directly responsible for sewerage disposal, but the provision of sewerage facilities, whilst being the financial responsibility of the RWA's, will be the day to day responsibility of the new District Councils, although, at the time of writing this report, the actual heads of agreement have yet to be finalised.

## **CLEANSING SERVICES**

### **Public Conveniences**

For various reasons, it has not proved possible to proceed with any further public conveniences, the B.D.C. being unable to offer suitable sites in either Priestwood or Bullbrook, although a site in Birch Hill now looks to be fairly firm. The negotiations with the Development Corporation into the possibility of utilising the toilets to be provided in Winchester House as public conveniences have also proved to be abortive for technical reasons but the new multi-storey car park near Bentalls includes conveniences, although these will remain in the ownership of the Development Corporation. It is also hoped to proceed with a public convenience at Caesar's Camp in the financial year 1973/74.

### **Refuse Collection**

1972 saw the successful conclusion of negotiations for a major revision in the refuse collection bonus scheme which now has an inbuilt calculation to take into account rising wages and, therefore, there should be no further need to re-negotiate the bonus rate in future. The 1½ cu. yd. container round is now at a maximum for the one vehicle and a second round will soon have to be established. A new Paxit 70 was introduced to the domestic collection round and it is anticipated that two, if not three, further refuse collection vehicles will be added in the year 1973/74. The paper sack collection area was extended in Bullbrook and Easthampstead to cover all remaining properties within the town not owned by the Development Corporation. The Council once again considered the possibility of changing to plastic sacks which would halve the cost involved but, in view of the non-degradation of plastic and its long term effect on the areas of land used for tipping, it was agreed to continue with the use of paper sacks. An attempt to utilise single ply paper sacks, which would have resulted in some reduction in cost, proved wholly unsatisfactory due to excessive tearing and spillage.

### **Refuse Disposal**

The proposals outlined in my last report mentioned that it was intended to accept refuse from Wokingham Borough for pulverisation. This has not now come to fruition due to various changes which have taken place in Wokingham, primarily as a result of impending reorganisation in 1974. The arrangement with Windsor R.D.C. will certainly continue until April 1974 and, in all probability, the County Council, whose responsibility it will be after that date, will not in-



stitute any change immediately. The weekend tipping area continues to be very heavily used and, in fact, the amount of rubbish deposited by the public in the area is between a half and three quarters of the total weight of refuse collected by the domestic collection rounds. This vast amount accounts for the high rate at which tipping space is being used up, as much of this type of refuse is not pulverizable and, in fact, it is hoped to complete tipping, cover and lightly seed the whole of the southern area of the tip in the Autumn of 1973.

### **Street Cleansing**

The labour situation which has been critical in this section for many years eased during 1972 and, although many of the employees are part-time, i.e. pensioners, at least the manual establishment was filled for the first time. A work study based bonus scheme is being considered and this will undoubtedly help recruiting but, inevitably, it would operate against part-time labour whose earnings are limited by their pensions and any additional bonus would mean that the number of hours they are able to put in a week would be reduced correspondingly. The mobile cleansing gang was established and each group of shops throughout the Rural District is visited weekly to carry out a full litter collection. Dependent upon the work load, this collection is extended to adjacent roads wherever possible.

### **EASTHAMPSTEAD PARK CEMETERY AND CREMATORIUM**

As this facility is under the management of the Clerk and Chief Executive Officer, I can only comment on the maintenance aspect which has been remarkably trouble free. The landscaping carried out at the end of the contract in 1971 has matured quite well, a small number of the original shrubs which failed were replaced in the Spring and have given no further trouble.

### **HOUSING**

Two sites are being pursued for O.P. Units, the first at Mill Ride and second on the Broadway House site in Sandhurst. The Mill Ride site was the subject of a planning refusal which was subsequently contested at an appeal, the outcome of which is still awaited, but, at the time of writing this report, a tender for the Broadway House Unit has just received Ministry clearance and it is hoped to commence work on site in the very near future.

Owlsmoor 2A—Shops and Maisonettes became available for occupation and most of the leases for the shop units have now been taken up. The adjacent Algrey private development carried out in association with the Council proceeded well and the new owners appear very satisfied with the outcome of this venture by the Council into this particular field.

The Easthampstead Caravan Site finally become available for occupation in November 1972, and the first families moved in, although not without a certain number of "teething troubles".

Minor improvement works to the Council's housing stock included improvements to the fire precautions and emergency lighting in the existing O.P. Units, completed at a cost of approximately £1,700.

Early in 1972, a working group was established to consider future Council housing policy and a report was presented and accepted 25th September, 1972. The administration of improvement grants went through a difficult year due to staff problems in the building control section, and the situation was worsened by what would otherwise have been a welcome escalation in applications. The general standard of improvement has been noticeably higher with applicants appearing to be more willing to carry out additional non-grant earning works rather than adhering, as in the past, to the barest minimum. The reduction in the number of standard grant applications also bears out this tendency.

## **RECREATION**

Whilst recreation provision is not strictly within the purview of this report, it is worth noting that the new indoor swimming pool contract made very satisfactory progress during the year and an opening date of 15th July, 1973, is anticipated. The contract for the new Easthampstead Park Golf Course, a joint venture with Wokingham Borough and Rural District Councils, also progressed throughout the year with an opening date of 30th June, 1973.

**C.F. MAY**  
**Engineer and Surveyor**

## **REPORT OF THE HOUSING MANAGER**

### **DEVELOPMENT**

The only new development taken over during the year were 8 x 3 bedroomed houses, the residue of Phase III Owlsmoor.

The 8 shops and maisonettes at Yeovil Road, Owlsmoor, were completed and handed over at various stages throughout the year.

It is most disappointing to record that no headway was made at all in the provision of Sheltered Accommodation for the elderly. Broadway House, Sandhurst, continued to be becalmed whilst the Council lost its appeal against the refusal of planning permission for the erection of a hostel at Mill Ride, Ascot.

### **HOUSE OWNERSHIP**

The end of the year saw the commencement of tenants and applicants from the housing list who had requested to become owner occupiers with the help of the Council's scheme with Algrey Homes Limited at Owlsmoor, taking over their properties. At the time of writing 8 tenants and 36 applicants from the housing list have availed themselves of the scheme.

### **MISCELLANEOUS PROPERTIES**

Three miscellaneous properties were acquired and added to the housing stock during the year as against two taken off charge.

### **CARAVAN SITE**

The Council's 12 pitch caravan site for the gypsy traveller was completed and the pitches handed over to the tenants on 6th November, 1972.

Considering all the endeavour and effort that had gone into the provision of the site it is disappointing to report that the site had an unfortunate baptism, suffering extensive damage by persons unknown during the Christmas period. However, it is hoped that after this initial setback the facilities offered at this very good site will be appreciated.

### **ALLOCATIONS, TRANSFERS AND EXCHANGES**

The following allocations, transfers and exchanges were effected during the year:—

Allocations	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	45
Nominations to the Bracknell										
Development Corporation	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	60
Transfers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Exchanges	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Caravans	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12

### **HOUSING WAITING LIST**

Appendices I and II show the position of the housing list at 21st May, 1973.

### **HOUSING STOCK**

Appendix III shows the housing stock as at 21st May, 1973.

**H. GLENDENNING**  
Housing Manager





## SUMMARY OF WAITING LIST AS AT 21st MAY, 1973

Parish		Single	Engaged Couples	No Children	1 Child	2 Children		3 child- ren and above	E.R.D.C. Aged Persons		Outside E.R.D.C. Aged Persons		Total
						Same Sex	Odd Sexes		Couples	Singles	Couples	Singles	
BINFIELD	Number on Waiting List	4	5	7	8	1	2	3	6	8	3	4	51
	Not in need	2	—	5	5	1	2	3	—	—	—	—	18
BRACKNELL	Number on Waiting List	24	24	66	56	23	18	41	9	22	13	10	306
	Not in need	3	—	38	39	21	14	33	—	—	—	—	148
CROWTHORNE	Number on Waiting List	1	5	43	45	9	20	15	6	17	—	—	161
	Not in need	1	—	34	37	8	17	11	—	—	—	—	108
SANDHURST	Number on Waiting List	5	14	19	32	8	7	6	6	20	12	6	135
	Not in need	3	—	11	19	3	4	5	—	—	—	—	45
ASCOT WINKFIELD WARFIELD	Number on Waiting List	7	14	32	47	11	19	10	10	22	3	5	180
	Not in need	2	—	17	19	6	6	6	—	—	—	—	56
TOTALS	Number on Waiting List	41	62	167	188	52	66	75	37	89	31	25	833
	Not in need	11	—	105	119	39	43	58	—	—	—	—	375
	In need	30	62	62	69	13	23	17	37	89	31	25	458

Old Age Pensioners (both inside and outside the area) have been shown as In Need.



Appendix II

SUMMARY OF HOUSING WAITING LIST AS AT 21st MAY, 1973

Present Accommodation	Single	Engaged Couples	No Children	1 Child	2 Children		3 children and above	E.R.D.C. Aged Persons		Outside E.R.D.C. Aged Persons		Total
					Same Sex	Odd Sexes		Couples	Singles	Couples	Singles	
Sub-Tenants	17	62	37	43	3	7	5	5	24	—	—	203
Caravans	10	—	21	27	9	12	4	5	13	—	—	101
Service Tenancies	5	—	67	71	28	33	44	13	14	—	—	275
Tenants/Owner Occupiers	9	—	42	47	12	14	22	14	38	31	25	254
TOTALS	41	62	167	188	52	66	75	37	89	31	25	833



Appendix III

SUMMARY OF COUNCIL PROPERTIES - SUMMARY AS AT 21st MAY, 1973

Parish	No. of Properties	No. of Garages	Houses				Bungalows				Flats			Flatlets	Remarks
			4 Bed	3 Bed	2 Bed	2 Bed	2 Bed	1 Bed	Bed/ Recess	2 Bed	1 Bed	Bed/ Recess	Flatlets		
Binfield	155	71	-	80	34	18	10	3	-	9	1	-	-		
Bracknell	398	215	-	221	28	4	-	24	27	57	1	27	36		
Crowthorne	265	153	10	109	14	8	23	-	-	51	41	-	9		
Sandhurst	246	85	4	116	30	6	4	-	-	41	29	-	16		
Warfield	18	-	-	12	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Winkfield	283	78	14*	112	81	38	24	-	-	14	-	-	-		*Includes two 5-bed.
TOTALS	1,365	602	28*	650	187	74	67	27	27	172	72	27	61		*Includes two 5-bed.
Purchased Properties.															
Misc.	29	3													
Caravan Sites	12	-													
GRAND TOTAL	1,406	605													











